

Amendments To The Claims

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A retrieval system for retrieving an image from an image data base, comprising:

a storage device for storing compressed image data of said image, said storage device including the image data base;

a retrieval device for retrieving said image while said compressed image data is in a compressed state; and

a compression device for compressing image data of said image to produce said compressed image data, wherein said compression device performs normalization for correcting fluctuation of said image data in reading prior to compression of said image data of said image to perform setup of said image data to achieve a predetermined reference value of the compressed image data,

wherein said storage device stores image data of said image after said image is split into a plurality of regions, and

wherein said retrieval device performs retrieval of said compressed image data after said image data in the regions, which are in a point symmetry relation with each other about a center of said image, are added.

AD
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